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440 **Witchcraft**—A Sad and Lamentable Account of one Mary Jawson, who wickedly sold herself to the Devil . . . to be revenged on her Aunt, etc. etc., 24mo, 12 pp, fore edges slightly cropped, 8s 6d

Glasgow 1702

An excessively rare Glasgow Witchcraft Tract printed by Saunders.

A Sad and Lamentable ACCOUNT of one

Mary Jawſon,

Born in Kirkcowl *in* Breaknack ſhire *in* Wales.

Who wickedly Sold her ſelf to the Devil, to be maintained in her Pride, for the ſpace of Fifteen Years, and to be Revenged on her Aunt for denying her exceſs in Apparel.

With the manner of his appearing to her, and the Contract ſhe made; the Diſcourſe he had with her at ſundry times, and his perſwading her to Poyſon her Aunt; for which being caſt into priſon ſhe confeſſed all to a Miniſter; with his queſtions to her, & the manner of her being Murthered there by the Devil, her fifteen Years being expired: it hath ſome other Examples tending to the like nature; and a pious Diſcourſe to Warn all the People to turn to GOD, and avoid the Temptations of the Devil: Suited to the deplorable Subject upon this ſad Occaſion.

A dreadful Story of a young Maid, in Devonſhire, who for renouncing her Contract in Marriage, had fearful Judgements ſhewn on her. Alſo an Account of a dreadful Judgment on a Rich Man for the cruel Uſage of his Servant, whom he had deluded.

To which is added, three dreadful Examples & Judgments that hath befallen three notorious Sinners.

1 *Pet.* 5. 8. Be ſober, be vigilant; becauſe your adverſary the Devil, as a roaring Lion, walketh about ſeeking whom he may Devour.

GLASGOW Printed in the Year 1702.

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A Sad and Lamentable Account of one M
Jawſon, *who wickedly Sold her ſelf to the Dev*
&c.

SAd and deplorable have been the ſundry R
lations of thoſe that have been tempted b
the wiles of Satan, to liſten to their own re
and deſtruction; But among the many that are r
counted, I ſuppoſe nothing can be more Terrib
and Amazing, then what I am about to relate.

One *Mary Jawſon*, born of honeſt and i
duſtrious Parents, growing up from her Infan
in a ſtubborn and peeviſh courſe of life, till ſ
came to be about Twelve years of Age, neglec
ing her duty to her Relations, her Parents bein
dead and refuſing to hearken to their ſurious a
ſeaſonable Advice, much affected the Faſhio
of the Age to go brave, and be ſeen in the Faſh
ons of the times, in which, though laying out l
viſibly what her Aunt gave her, ſhe was not con
tented, but craving more to diſpoſe of in profuſ
neſs, (her Uncle being now dead) ſhe was d
nyed it by her Aunt which created in her ſo gre
an Anger, that ſhe vowed Revenge, and wiſhe
many grievous Wiſhes, if ſhe did not endeavour
the utmoſt of her power, to accompliſh it; b
how at that time ſhe knew not, her Reſolution b

heck'd through Fear and Amazment.

These bad Thoughts continued not long, before (as one Evening she was walking in the Garden, Meditating how to accomplish her wicked purpose) one in the likeness of a tall Black Man appeared to her, as from behind the Trees & Bushes, and asked her the occasion of her Melancholly; At which sudden Surprize, she at first started; and looked pale: whereupon making an humble Address, and offering her a handful of Gold, he told her he knew it already, and came to supply her wants, and Revenge her of her Enemies.

This puts her into a further Amazement; but this Evil Spirit in obliging terms, pressing it upon her, she at last consented to take it, desiring to know how she should make him amends seeing before her Aunts death she should have nothing of that value fall to her share, considering her Uncle had left her Fortune in her hands, or at least, to give her what she pleased, if she should happen to be Married before that time.

At which he smiling replyed, she need not trouble herself, for he would continually supply her to her wish, if she would grant him one Request; which after some pause, she promised she would accord to.

Upon this, he told her she should never want

Money

Money to support her in the highest *Extravagancy*, if she would promise to be his, Soul and Body.

At this she made some demure; her Blood, as she afterward confessed, run back in her Veins, and her Hair stood an end & a sudden trembling seized her in every part: However, her Pride, to be bravely maintained, prevailed over her *Fear*, & the fatal Contract was made, and Signed with her Blood, by pricking a Vein in her Arm, That at fifteen years she would go with him whereever he would carry her.

Upon this she went home, and slept but badly that night. Dreaming horrible Dreams, but the next night this Devil appeared to her as she lay musing alone & brought her Gay Apparel, Jewels and the like; and so from time to time she went brave, to the admiration of her Aunt and the Neighbours, who suspected she took ill courses; and so the time went on, she confessing nothing how she came with 'em, though often required; abusing & taunting her Aunt, when she demanded to know where she had them, insomuch, that at last she turned her out of doors: whereupon this Ungracious Kinswoman studying Revenge, & consulting with her Infernal confident how to accomplish it, she took an opportunity by his Advice, to go, under pretence to be reconciled to her, & put Poyson in her drink, which proving

Mortal

Mortal, and she suspected of the Crime, she confessed it, and was committed to Prison, where she lay under great Agonies of mind, so that a Minister coming to visit her, she confessed to him the whol matter, saying pride had occasioned her fall and that the Devil by that means, had drawn her into an Snare, which she could not escape. Upon this, Prayers were put up for her; but her time of Contract being expir ed, she was, in the midst of divers people, to their great astonishment, taken up, and violently dasht against the Wall with such force, that she immediately died, and thereupon ensued flashes of Lightning and horrible Cries: From which sad Disaster, good Lord deliver all those, that shall read this fearful Example.

A pious Discourse to warn all People to turn to GOD and to avoid the Temptations of the Devil, &c.

1 Pet. 5 8. *Be Sober, be Vigilant, for your Adversary the Devil, goeth about like a Roaring Lion, seeking whom he may Devour.*

THat we ought to be very watchfull and Cautious against the great Enemy of our Souls, since he so greedily seeks our Destruction, and

and lays so many Snares to intrap us: His Angelic substance and long Experience, has rendred subtil and Crafty, to find out and put in with our desires, when they incline to Evil, suiting the Temptation to the depravity of our Appetites, guilding over his Baits with some seeming Good or Advantage, to make them pass and be taken in the readier. No sooner Man was made, and in a state of Bliss, but Satan envying his happiness, found a means to seduce and betray him, and in him his Posterity.

O then let all that read this, beware of this grand deceiver & destroyer of Souls: resist him & he may flye from you; pray to God for assistance against temptation, and earnestly desire protection of your Heavenly Father, who is alone able to succor you against so powerful an Adversary; Be strong in Faith, and pray often; set not your minds too much on the things of this world, for with them he baits his deadly hok to catch the unwary Soul; but let your Eyes be upon the Everlasting Hill, the Eternal Rewards of Life: Suffer with holy *Job*, any thing, rather then yield to the Tempters suggestion; for how fair soever he promises, yet in the end he will be sure to deceive you, for he is a Lyar from the beginning as too many have sadly experienced, to their utter Ruin and destruction, not only of Body, but even of

the Soul, for 'tis that rich Jewel he chiefly aims at, bringing all those that trust him to Ruin O let us pray then to God to deliver us from so great an evil, least these poor wretches, we by listening to Satan, are carried on from one Temptation to another, till we are past recovery.

O let us beware of pride, and Disobedience to Parents, for they are Sins that provoke God to give us up to other Evils, and give Satan a strong hold in our hearts: Let us be content with our Condition though but mean, and, not out of Vain-glory, pursue wicked ways, that will hazard our Souls, more precious than ten thousand Worlds, as those poor wretches have done: From which sad Disaster, the Lord of his infinite Mercy keep us, for Jesus Christ his sake: *Amen.*

Dreadful Examples of GOD's fearful Judgments and Revenge against wicked and impenitent Sinners.

A *dreadfull Story of a young Maid in* Devonshire *who for renouncing her Vows and Contracts to her Lover, had fearful Judgments shewn on her.*

TO shew GOD's terrible Judgments upon making rash Wishes and breaking them; I shall here relate a very dreadful Exemple.

It

It happened near *Exeter*, in the County of *Devon*, lived on *Ann More*, a brisk and comely Maid born of good Parentage; with whom at a Merry Meeting about *Exeter*, a young Man the Son of a Ship-Carpenter, newly come from Sea with considerable Riches, fell in Love; & having a while strugled with his Passion, he found means to reveal it to her: she at first seemed coy and slighting, but with presents and fair words she grew more tractable, and in conclusion, consented to be Married: The young Man upon this intrusted her with all his Wealth, on a solemn Promise that she would never fall from her word and that he would only go to *London* to receive some Money due to him, and so return, and solemnize the Matrimonial rites with greater splendor: upon this, with hands and eyes uplifted to Heaven, she protested a lasting constancy, vowing that no wealth nor any other Consideration should prevail with her to Marry any but him, wishing that *GOD* would inflict some dreadful Judgement on her, and give the Devil power over her, as a Terror to all false-hearted and unconstant Maids if she kept not her promise, and so breaking a piece of Gold, between them, they with Kisses and many Amorous expressions parted. It seems the young Man although impatient to return, met with some delays; though he failed

not to write as often as he could, what hindred it in the mean time one who had before cast his Eyes on this beautiful Maid, hearing that she was suddenly to be Married, came in his Coach to visit her and being more and more taken with her behaviour and comelineſs, he began to lay before her the enjoyment of a great Eſtate, the pleaſures of being attended with Servants and having all heart could wiſh, that worldly mindedneſs made her forget her vow and after a ſhort Courtſhip yielded to be his Wife; but God was not wanting to puniſh her breach of Contract, for in the way to the Church to be Marry'd, ſhe was taken with a ſhivering like an Ague, and at the Table, ſhe was ſtruck Dumb, and uncapable of anſwering the Miniſter, as alſo of what he ſaid, and ſo continued ſeven days, at the end of which thoſe returning, ſhe fell Diſtracted, and in her ravings, the Devil and worldly wealth had made her vow, for which ſhe ſhould be damned; often calling on the Ships Carpenter to forgive her, he thereupon was ſent for, but came too late, for having lain thus ſometime ſhe came a little to herſelf and earneſtly admoniſhed all *Young* Maids, as they tendered this and Eternal Happineſs, if ever they engaged, to perform their Contracts, leaſt GOD's judgments overtake them in the like dreadful manner: and ſo again fell Speechleſs,

and

and soon after died. The young Man upon this disaster went in a melancholly mood to Sea resolving never to return again, or ever to Marry while he lived.

An Account of dreadful Judgements that overtook a rich Man for the cruel usage of his Servant, whom he had got with Child.

IT happned that a rich young Gentleman near *Soal* in *Suffolk* having an extraordinary pritty Maid to be his Servant, and being a single man he made Love to her, but by the unequalness of her Fortune, she see his design was only to debauch her, kept at a distance, urging many things to make him give over his suit, but he still persisted it, at last by giving her many fair things, and promising her Marriage, he had his will of her, and she proved with Child by him, but then neither her Tears nor prayers could prevail with him to Marry her, but unkindly turning his Love to hatred after many reproaches; one Evening he turned her out of doors; whereupon destitute of habitation, she entred into a Wood, where after many Complaints and Tears she fell in Labour, where, having no help, nor any thing to succor or Comfort her, she and her Child perished, recommending with her last breath her cause to God to revenge upon her wicked Master.

Soon

Soon after this hard hearted Wretch riding that way, just as he came to the place his Horse fell a snorting and starting aside, and threw him against a stump, which burst his Belly, when being carry'd home, he lay raving for a time, and then died in great Torment; confessing what he had done; and his Brother taking possession of what he left, the Cattle died of the Murrain and Rot, the Corn was blasted in the Field, and that which was Housed consum'd by Vermin, the Houses were fired none knew how, so that in short time all was consumed, which plainly shewed God's Judgment for such Wickedness and Inhumane Cruelty, as a Terror to others who shall dare to do the like.

GOD's *Judgments on common Swearers.*

A *Jewish* Rabbin as he was Swearing and Blaspheming the Name of Jesus, fell down and broke his Neck.

A certain young Boy being much addicted to that fearful sin of Swearing and was wont to invent new Oaths, had his Tongue eaten up by a Canker, the Instrument with which he Blaspheemed.

GOD's *Judgments on Sabbath Breakers.*

A Gentleman using to hunt on the Sabbath day, the Lord punished with this Judgment, he caused his Wife to bring forth a Child like a Dog: That seeing he preferred his Dogs before the Service of God, he might have one of his own getting to make much of.

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